

Gold Command Decision Log – Decisions made in meetings held between 1 September 2021 and 30 November 2021

231	02.09.21	<p>To clarify that the decision taken for pregnant members of staff who work closely with members of the public for periods of 15 minutes or more should work from home until the 31st October 2021 in the first instance was only from week 28 of the pregnancy.</p> <p>To agree to take up a newspaper's offer of a column piece.</p> <p>To agree to continue with a rigorous position in withstanding approaches to downgrade Covid-19 from a Pandemic to an Endemic.</p> <p>To agree to continue with arranging 4 Flu clinics days for care Staff across the county.</p> <p>To agree to the proposed implementation of Phase 4 of the Adjustment for the Transition Towards Recovery Plan for Day Services from 1st September 2021.</p> <p>To agree that County Hall could be utilised for 1 on 1 training of a newly appointed Validation Officer on the stipulation that Lateral Flow Device ('LFD') testing and the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment ('PPE') are utilised and the Staff use the side entrance of the building for entry/exit.</p>
232	07.09.21	<p>To agree to allow up to a maximum of 10 members of Staff in Penmorfa at the same time and this to be managed by the Facilities Management team.</p> <p>To agree to the resumption of the standby arrangements for the 'Staff Referral' Team and the continuation of Covid-19 Emergency Cover with a review at the beginning of October 2021.</p> <p>To agree to allow the Deputy Minister visit to the Library, Archives and Museum to go ahead on the 14th of October as long as appropriate Risk Assessments are in place.</p> <p>To agree to the recommendation to support the application for Non-Domestic rated remission or relief for a business in the South of the County.</p> <p>To agree to waive the Notice of Marriage fee for those already in the system until the end of December 2021.</p>
233	09.09.21	<p>To agree to the proposals outlined in the Democratic Services Adjustment Phase document. Adding that the Phase 3 proposed pilot meeting in the Chamber should be pushed back to January 2022.</p> <p>To agree that Electoral Services Staff can access Penmorfa for the current canvass as per the detailed Risk Assessment that has been prepared.</p> <p>To note the Welsh Government latest guidance outlined in the report for continuing arrangements regarding temporary Covid-19 financial support for Adult Social Care.</p>

		To approve the draft column piece that the CLO Democratic Services had prepared for publication in the Cambrian News.
234	14.09.21	To agree that the creation of the Covid-19 Public Information Films can go ahead as outlined in the proposal paper.
		To agree to wait for the expected announcement on Wednesday from UK Government regarding quarantine for returning travellers before making any change in policy for the Council's Staff traveling abroad.
235	16.09.21	To agree to maintain the position that no work will be undertaken to change the current infrastructure of the Safe Zone towns until the conclusion of a full consultation.
		To agree that the current policy regarding Staff returning from Amber countries who have to self-isolate would continue with annual or unpaid leave being taken for working days lost.
		To agree to undertake a new risk assessment for the Library Service due to the increased instances of public not adhering to wearing a facemask. In the event of no increased risk being identified the status quo will be maintained and Staff informed accordingly. If an increased risk is identified the Library will return to a click and collect service until such time as Gold Command is comfortable with the rate of Covid-19 in the County.
		Other agencies should be made aware that if a warning to self-isolate is ignored then access to the temporary accommodation facility will be refused. This change in policy was as a last resort having exhausted all other avenues and was necessary for the protection of other users and Staff.
		To agree that a Housing Service Officer could access County Hall for 3 days a week for the next fortnight and thereafter 2 days a week until the end of October to undertake data download and manipulation which will feed in to the Housing Support due to not having the required connection and bandwidth at home.
		To agree to establish a designated area in County Hall for staff to use on request when needing to access large amounts of data.
		To approve the proposal to allow schools to begin planning for the return of school swimming in Ceredigion. A further report with finalised arrangements would be brought back to Gold Command for approval prior to commencement.
		To approve the recommencement of visits within the home including lone working for identified vulnerable pupils where limited or no contact has been made and have not re-engaged with education.
		To agree to a filming request outside Theatr Felinfach.
236	21.09.21	To agree to revert to the procedures in the Constitution relating to applicants, agents and objectors addressing the Development Control Committee directly via zoom from 13 October 2021 (the date of the next meeting).

		To agree to Option 2 for Library Service delivery with the following stipulations: Public allowed into the building for browsing for 15 minutes only and suspend all use of the public access computers. Additional signage will be provided in all libraries on mask wearing and Anti-social behaviour. Any member of the public refusing to wear a mask, will only be dealt with from behind the counter screens. Continued maximum limit allowed in the buildings at any one time based on a calculation of square metre floor area. Arrangements to take place with immediate effect.
237	23.09.21	To approve the recommencement of the delivery of Outdoor National Exercise Referral Scheme ('NERS') Walking and Exercise Classes from Monday 4th October 2021 with a further review of activities prior to entering the winter months.
238	28.09.21	To agree to no longer undertake track and trace for all contacts within secondary schools.
		To agree that virtual teaching could be used for Year 12 pupils in a school due to the large numbers of pupils already at home self-isolating.
		To agree that the regional position re Care Home Guidance is revised and is aligned with the national guidance with the caveat that Ceredigion care homes will be advised that where 1 Resident or 2 Staff tests positive that this triggers an outbreak action.
		To agree to the recommencement of charging to use Public Toilets from the end of October Half Term.
239	30.09.21	To agreed that Ceredigion Care Homes will follow the Welsh Government Guidance of two positive results before instigating restrictions, but with the following caveats: Upon receipt of a single positive result, the Care Home will go into pause status and seek guidance from Public Health Wales ('PHW') if there are any circumstances that raise concern. Also if a resident receives a positive result, the home will automatically go into pause status pending guidance from PHW.
		To conclude that in light of the situation report from Dyfed Powys Local Resilience Forum regarding fuel issues and the expected improving picture over the coming days there was no current need to reviewing risk assessments with regards to car sharing for Social Care Staff.
		To agree that the Council would not run the Fair Markets in Cardigan and Aberystwyth this year due to the impact on resources but to communicate the decision to the respective Town Councils urgently so they had the opportunity to organise the events themselves if they wished to. The former bus depot site would also be made available to them if needed.
240	05.10.21	To agree in principle the amendments to the Adjustment towards Recovery phase plan for Care Home visiting subject to final approval by Gold Command at the end of October

		once the booster vaccine programme for Care Home residents is completed.
		To agree and supported the experimental traffic orders timeline as presented.
		To approve in principle the Support and Prevention activities for children and young people during October half term with the caveat that a paper is brought back to Gold Command on the Tuesday before half term for final approval.
		To support the decision made at Leadership Group to adopt the Interim Joint Protocol on the Management of Long-Covid in Local Authorities in Wales until 16 January 2022.
241	07.10.21	To agree to share the PHW messaging regarding the vaccine campaign for pregnant women with the reader comment facility turned off.
		To agree to support a Headteacher by endorsing a letter from the Headteacher to parents asking them to consider limiting contacts in order to try and break the cycle of transmission in the area.
		To agree with the proposals to allow the General Register Office inspection visit to go ahead subject to the control measures detailed in the report.
242	12.10.21	To agree not to allow travel abroad for Ceredigion Schools due to there being no provision in the Local Authority insurance for Covid19.
		To agree to allow Schools to use their delegated budgets to provide flu vouchers for their Staff, should they wish to do so.
		To agree to the proposal to revert to pre-COVID19 opening hours arrangements, removal of the odd/even restriction, whilst maintaining the limit on vehicle numbers in Household Waste Sites from 1st November 2021 and removal of the collective Job & Finish arrangements at the depots.
		To agree that the proposed arrangements for the return to 3 in a cab for waste collection Refuse Collection Vehicles with new risk assessment could be presented for discussion with Trade Unions.
243	14.10.21	To agree that Staff Christmas parties could take place but guidance would be prepared for Staff to follow to make them as safe as possible.
		To agree to the request to stage the annual pantomime performance at Theatre Felinfach subject to the protective measures outlined in the proposal.
		That any future proposals of events from Theatr Felinfach should be fed through the Activities and Events group.
		To agree to pay travelling expenses for Health & Social Care Staff to travel to receive their booster vaccine.
		To agree to the proposals detailed in the paper regarding amendments to the arrangements for corporate staff

		returning to work after visiting a country outside of the Common Travel Area.
244	20.10.21	To agree to continue the policy of Staff working from home from week 28 of their pregnancy. To agree that the proposed Support and Prevention activities for children and young people during October half term could take place subject to confirmation from Public Protection that they are satisfied with the infection control practices at the Campus.
245	26.10.21	To approve the proposal for the return of indoor NERS activity sessions with the caveats that no other classes or members of the public enter the building while the NERS classes are running and each NERS client produce a negative LFD test before entry. Not to support the proposals within phase 3 of the Growth & Enterprise Adjustment phase towards recovery plan pertaining to physical attendance at some conferences and events due to the current high infection rates across Wales. This proposal is to be reviewed in the New Year. To agree to increase the maximum capacity of Staff access to Canolfan Rheidol to 25.
246	28.10.21	To agree to the immediate reinstatement of the pre-approval training for prospective foster carers as outlined in the proposal. To defer, due to current Covid infection levels across the County, the decision regarding winter activities and ask for the request bought back in the first week of December for review. The decision regarding the reinstatement of Foster Career team meetings was to be reviewed in January 2022. To agree to defer the decision on the proposal: 'to provide residents with capacity to make an informed choice of wishing to leave the premises with their identified 2 designated visitors' for a month due to the extremely high Covid figures currently in Ceredigion communities. To agree that no resident will be able leave the home if there is an active incident or outbreak, unless this is for an essential reason i.e. an urgent healthcare appointment. To agree that only essential visits to visit Local Authority Care Homes should take place and to review this decision in a month. To agree to align with Welsh Government guidance and introduce a nominated 'essential visitors' for each Resident. To agree that visitors continue to undertake supervised LFD tests before entering the Care Home. To agreed that visitors must continue to maintain social distancing in a Care Home. To agree to ease restrictions around gifts, including food and drink. These may now be shared between visitors and

		Residents, and no longer need to be kept in sealed, unopened containers.
		To approve the proposal to reinstate safe outdoor performances in Care Home settings subject to the appropriate procedures and risk assessments.
		To defer the decision on the proposal for internal activities in Care Homes settings to re-start in until January 2022 due to the current high case rate in the County.
		To agree that Local Authority Social Care Services Staff who are a 'Community' contact of someone who has tested positive can return to work after a negative result of PCR day 2 test (if fully vaccinated) but must complete the full 10 day isolation period if a 'household' member contact of someone who has tested positive.
		To approve the revised policy for Staff returning to work after international travel to Green listed countries.
		To agree to the draft Christmas parties message with the caveat that the first bullet point regarding staying at home if Staff have Covid symptoms should be strengthened.
247	02.11.21	No decisions
248	04.11.21	To agree to delay the decision on Carmarthenshire's Mutual aid request for medical equipment until the Corporate Lead Officer Porth Gofal has had the chance to fully consider the implications for the Council's own future stocks and report back to Gold Command.
		To agree to give the CLO People and Organisation approval to continue with negotiations around the potential rental of a site as a backup plan should we be unable to negotiate remaining at the current site.
249	09.11.21	To agree to the Lateral Flow Testing prior to visiting within a Care Home protocol, subject to the inclusion of one sentence regarding having a sufficient supply of tests in advance of their visit.
250	11.11.21	To approve the amended paper regarding reintroduction of School Support Advisory Staff visits to schools.
		To agree to restart face to face visits and indoor activities relating to statutory duties for early intervention and prevention services, safeguarding and the assessment and provision of care and support.
		To agree to the proposal to increase Dash Away Weekend delivery to two groups of children following a risk assessed matching process.
		To refuse a filming request due to the current pressures being experience by Staff.
251	16.11.21	To agree that a one day Liberty Protection Safeguarding development workshop for 5 Staff could take place in the Aeron and Ystwyth Rooms in Penmorfa.

252	18.11.21	<p>To agree in principle that Covid Passes should be a requirement for any indoor events held in schools in the lead-up to Christmas that would involve the public. This will be subject to Audit Wales checking the definition around 'concert halls' within the Covid Pass regulations to see if it covers schools that have concerts.</p> <p>To refuse the request to allow Staff to attend a conference in London the risk to Staff was assessed as too great when balanced against the potential advantages and was in line with current policy of restricting all staff travel outside the County unless strictly necessary.</p> <p>To agree that whilst Gold Command Covid-19 meetings continue to be convened any further request to attend similar learning events and conferences outside of the County must be brought to Gold Command for consideration on a case by case basis.</p> <p>To agree to the request from the Corporate Lead Officer – Policy, Performance and Public Protection regarding mandatory training of 5 Public Protection Officers in relation to statutory duties relating to private water supplies (subject to careful consideration on the location and the risk assessment along with stringent safety measures).</p> <p>To authorise the use of an area on the upper floor of County Hall in Aberaeron over the next 6 months where there was an essential need for face to face training to take place. Strictly all requests to use this facility must initially be brought to Gold Command for consideration and authorisation.</p> <p>To agree that more detail around numbers and timescales were needed before a decision could be taken on the Community-based universal and targeted provisions for children and young people proposals.</p>
253	23.11.21	<p>To allow two people (1 trainer and 1 x trainee) to access County Hall, Aberaeron in order for a member of staff to receive training to use a portal in child care cases.</p> <p>To agree that trainees can use their own transport (travel costs will be reimbursed) to undertake an online test at the accredited Scottish Qualifications Authority centre in Cross Hands for their Street Works qualification.</p> <p>To agree to proceed with the setting up and operation of the Welsh Government Business Support Fund grant programme using the same arrangements as last year.</p> <p>To agree to allow the resumption of food hygiene inspections in Care Homes in line with Food Standards Authority Recovery Plan and the safety measures outlined within the paper.</p>
254	30.11.21	<p>To confirm the previous decision taken by Gold Command that any member of staff returning from a red listed country should take Annual or Unpaid Leave to undertake their quarantine period.</p>